"Dedicated To The Artist
In All Of Us"

JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS

Volume 1, Number 1 SEPTEMBER 12, 1984 FREE

JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS

Greetings from the JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS! We are a bi-weekly publication that will cover the arts in Jamaica Plain. We will have articles and information, listings of events in J.P., and events outside J.P. that involve local artists.

If you are interested in helping out on our publication, please write and tell us. Also let us know how you think we are doing and how we can improve.

We are looking for listings of art, music, theatre, dance and any other art related events. The deadline for listings is the Thursday before the paper comes out. The next deadline is September 20 for a September 26 publication date.

Send all correspondance to
JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS
P.O. Box 3
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
or leave it in the NEWSBOX in Food For Thought, Centre St. PLEASE INCLUDE your name and phone number.

ARTS COUNCIL NEWS

The Jamaica Plain Arts Council returns! After a hiatus of a few years, a number of interested people began gathering in July of this year to discuss the formation, or more correctly re-formation of an arts council.

In 1978 the original council was formed through the Mayor's Office on

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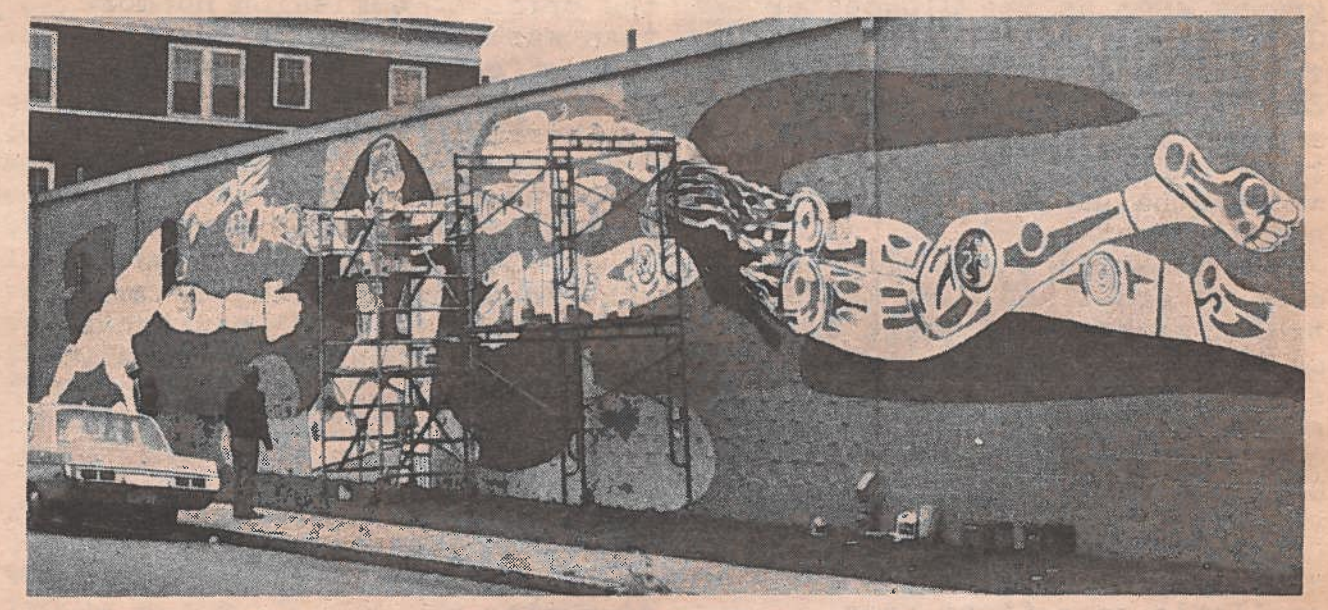

TAINO GODS WATCH OVER PERKINS ST.

People passing along Perkins Street in the past few weeks have been surprised to see a dynamic image bursting from the back wall of the Hi-Lo Supermarket. This is the work of Rafael Rivera-Garcia, better known as Sonny. Sonny and his assistants have been working twelve hour days in all kinds of Boston weather to be finished by September 8 for the dedication ceremonies.

Sonny Rivera is associate professor of painting at the University of Puerto Rico in Rio Piedras. His associate on this project is Jose Ramos, a student at the university who also teaches at the University of Turabo and is a magnificant painter is his own right.

How did this project end up in Jamaica Plain? At the current time, Sonny Rivera is the cultural affairs director for a small city, Dorado, on the northern coast of Puerto Rico. Through this position he is able to fulfill one of his most fervent goals, that of bringing art to the people. He finds going into the barrios himself more satisfying than his former position as director of the office of cultural affairs for the Governor of Puerto Rico. Putting art where people are, rather than in museums, is his aim.

The young dynamic mayor of Dorado, Alfonso Lopez Chaar has a connection with Boston because that is where his wife Ricky is from. They come to Boston often and on one trip met with the Hispanic groups in Boston and conceived this project. Dorado offered the services of the artist and provided transportation to and from Boston. Mayor Flynn, who has rerouted his daily jogging path to pass the wall, was very enthusiastic and arranged to provide hotel accommodations and meals. City Hall also picked up the bill for additonal expenses not covered by local sponsors. Paint materials were provided by Sherwin Williams, the scaffolding was offered by a local contractor, Pepe Diaz. True Value Hardware gave the rollers and the all important wall was arranged by Bill Jordan, manager of Hi-Lo, who also spruced up the area.

Additional community involvement came in the form of two artistic helpers, John Monteiro and Jose Alicea who put in many hours filling the very large color areas.

Rivera is not new to murals. He has many murals in his native Puerto Rico and also throughout the United States, giving him a reputation as one of the foremost muralists in the U.S. Many works dipict the gods and folklore of the primitive people who once inhabited the Antilles Islands, which include Cuba, Haiti, Santo Domingo, Puerto Rico and many smaller islands. These Taino Indians, also called the Anawak by anthropologists, were the Stone Age civilization that was discovered by Columbus. These were a warrior people who bravely fought the Spanish incursion into the area. Their wooden clubs and small bows and arrows couldn't match the Spanish arms, but the Taino influence is felt to this day in the popular culture. The vast majority of place names are Taino and people are proud of this common heritage, one of the reasons Rivera chooses Taino themes for his work. This is particularly relevant in Boston, where the Hispanic community comes from many

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*URBANARTS INC.

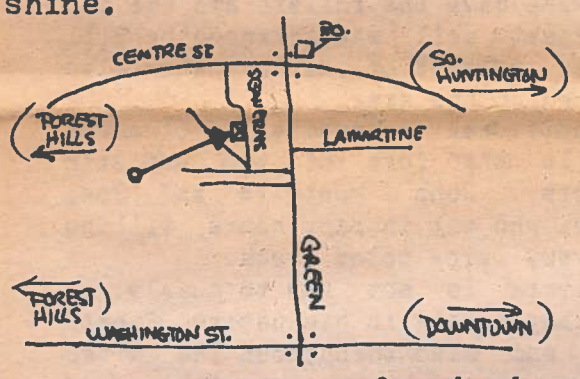
*ART EVENTS

AUTUMN ARTS FAIR

J.P. JUNCTION COFFEEHOUSE AND WUMB SPONSOR FOLK ARTS BENEFIT

The 1984-85 season is being kicked off by an Outdoor Craft and Music Festival on Saturday September 22, 1984, 12 noon through 5;30p.m. in the yard at Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., Jamaica Plain. WUMB will be broadcasting the event LIVE, featuring performers and recording artists from the greater Boston area including groups such as The Gloucester Clog and Hornpipe Society, Hazelgreen, and the No Show Show Band, as well as Peggy Morgan and Bette Phelan, David Christian, Marcia Taylor, Greg Wells and Martha Lappen, Kenji Ogata and Bob Franke.

In addition there will be over 50 craft and flea market tables marketing a large array of items. Craft/flea market spaces are still available for rent by sending a $10.00 check to J.P.Junction, c/o Central Congregational Church, 85 Seaverns Ave., J.P.MA. 02130. Checks are made payable to "J.P. Junction". Tables are available on a first come, first serve basis. Please include your name address, phone and type of item(s). Raindate: Saturday, Sept. 29, rain or shine.



Tickets for the festival are $4.50 in advance from the following locations:

SANDY'S MUSIC
896-A Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139

WUMB-FM Radio
UMass/Boston
Boston, MA 02125

MUSIC FIRST
Centre Street
West Roxbury, MA

FERRIS WHEELS
BICYCLE SHOP
64 South Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

THE MUSIC EMPORIUM
2018 Massachusetts Ave
Cambridge, MA 02140

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
OFFICE
UMass/Boston
Boston, MA 02125

Tickets also available at the door for $5.00 each. Children under 12 are free.

PLEASE RESERVE ME A SPACE AT THE J. P. JUNCTION/WUMB-FM FOLK ARTS BENEFIT

Saturday, September 22nd from NOON until 5:00

NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

_____

PHONE: _____

Please send this form and your check to:
J. P. JUNCTION
Central Congregational Church
85 Seaverns Ave.
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK FOR $_____ FOR _____ SPACES AT $10.00 EACH.

I ☐ will ☐ will not need a table provided. (Number of tables available is extremely limited.)

J.P. JUNCTION COFFEEHOUSE

The J.P. Junction Coffeehouse opened its doors on January 20th 1984. Its purposes have been several, with the first being to provide the community with quality folk arts entertainment in a low-key, non-threatening environment. The second goal was to give encouragement and opportunity for local artists to showcase their talents in such an atmosphere. It was also decided that everything would be done to allow anyone who desired to attend the Coffeehouse by making the price of admission no more than was necessary to sustain the Coffeehouse operation. That is why the idea of a benefit was born, in order to help provide the quality folkarts throughout the year without raising the price of admission.

J.P.Junction Coffeehouse has offered a wide variety of music from blues, to Irish sea songs, ballads, bluegrass, classical, and protest songs, old and new. Many of the artists write and perform their own songs and music on a wide variety of musical instruments. Performers are chosen on the basis of their quality, originality and diversity.

J.P.Junction is actively recruiting volunteers to help with its operation. The first coffeehouse of this season will be on Friday September 28th, 8:00, featuring the Gloucestor Clog and Hornpipe society. Admission $2.00 and refreshments will be available. Artists interested in performing are invited to call David Christian at 522-4737 or Rev. Dennis Bailey at 524-4311/524-3343.

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Jose Ramos, Sonny Rivera and John Monteiro in front of the mural.

different islands and countries but share this history.

The mural on Perkins Street depicts three figures in classic struggle. The central figure is Atabex, the mother goddess. She is goddess of earth, fertility and goodness. It is interesting to note that this religion has a female figure as the primary one. To her left, on the right side of the wall is Jurakan, her son. He is the god of wind, destruction and night. The Taino had a terrible fear of darkness and never ventured out at night. The Puerto Rican spelling of his name is Hurakan, from which we get the English word 'hurricane'. To the right of Atabex, on the left side of the wall is the kneeling figure of Yokaju, also her son. He is the yucca god and defends the earth from the hurricane, or Jurakan. His offspring include the sun god, Camuy and the moon god, Maroya. The mother goddess uses her powerful arms to hold them apart.

The designs on the figures are authentic to the Taino culture which used clay stamps to imprint designs on their bodies. This horror vacui, or fear of emptiness, is common to many primitive cultures. The designs and decorations were thought to prevent evil spirits from entering the body.

It's hard to believe that in ten days our community has become the recipients of this striking symbol of Hispanic culture and art. Even more enjoyable is the fact that it came about because of the merging of interests and energies of two towns, one in Puerto Rico and one in the United States.

Many thanks to Sonny Rivera for the information he provided for this article.

URBANARTS INC. WHERE ARE THEY?

Many community artists attended a meeting on June 13, 1984 to hear about the plans for the Southwest Corridor Project: Arts or Transit Program. Arts in Transit places artwork in MBTA stations. There will be nine such stations on the new Southwest Corridor line, divided into three sections. The Jamaica Plain section includes Boylston, Green And Forest Hills stations.

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JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS

The JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS is a bi-weekly publication. Subscriptions are $15.00 for 24 issues.

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JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS
P.O. Box 3
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

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Rev. Dennis Bailey
Tom Jordan
Michael Payne

Special Thanks to:
Victor Stango
D.R. Miller
Michael Kressley
Jack

ARTS COUNCIL

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Cultural Affairs which formed art councils throughout the city of Boston at that time. A number of these councils are still active, notably Fenway, Allston-Brighton and Dorchester. Our council sponsored Halloween House in that first year and was one of the founders of the Wake Up The Earth Spring Festival which continues to occur each year.

Throughout this time and indeed to the present day, the Arts Council has shown a firm commitment to working with other community groups as well as a desire to merge the many cultural influences in our community in a positive way.

Currently the main focus of the group is to obtain a space in the community where it would be possible to house the educationel and artistic events and programs sponsored by the artists in Jamaica Plain. Other functions of the space might include office space for other community arts organizations and art related businesses such as a cafe.

To this end, task forces have been formed to investigate possible sites as well as funding both short and long term. Some sites being considered include the soon-to-be vacated fire house and the old police station. Other committees are working on developing programming, and on reaching out to the community to gain support, to find out about other similar projects, to publicize the Arts Council activities and to build membership. The arts council is looking for personpower to achieve these goals. If this sounds like something you'd like to be part of, write to:

JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS COUNCIL
P.O.Box 533
Jamaica Plain, Ma. 02130

Specify what kinds of things you would like to do and someone will be in touch with you. But don't wait, committees are already meeting and work is underway.

URBANARTS

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At this time the spokesperson for URBANARTS INC., Pamela Worden, outlined what role URBANARTS will have in the Permanent Art program. They will coordinate and implement artist selection, act as a liason among all parties involved, oversee artists' contracts and pay schedules, supervise installation and document the projects.

Selection of the artwork for each section will be made by a panel of five art professionals. They will review information given to them by a site committee for each station. Site committees will be composed of residents, business and institutional representatives from the community, the station architiect and a representative of the MBTA. The panel from each section will decide by what method the artists will be chosen.

If you are interested in this program and don't receive a mailing, you can request one by writing to URBANARTS INC. 716 Columbus Ave. Boston, Ma. 02120.

MEET THE ARTISTS

EACH ISSUE THE JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS WILL FOCUS ON DIFFERENT ARTISTS IN THE COMMUNITY: WHAT THEY ARE DOING, WHAT THEY ARE THINKING ABOUT. LET US KNOW ABOUT ARTISTS YOU'D LIKE TO SEE IN THIS SPACE.

ANDY HOLINER PUTS MAGIC IN THEIR EYES

How many of us remember some person or event that we experienced when we were small, something that influences us to this day? For Andy Holiner it was a music teacher who came to see him and his ten-year old classmates during the last period on Friday - a reward well worth the weekly wait. Those songs he learned then stayed with him throughout his life. They brought him a feeling that he strives to bring to the small children he spends time with in such places as the Goosey Gander Nursery School in Dorchester. And by the looks on the faces of the children, it's working.

Andy tells these four year olds about the spirit and energy that is unique to each of them. He admonishes them to look into each other's eyes, looking as they do for the "magic light" in the eyes of the other. As they peer eagerly at each other, nodding affirmatively that they do see the light, he tells them that if someone isn't feeling quite right all they need to do is "shine that magic light right into their eyes and they'll feel better". And then Andy and the kids sing a rip roaring chorus of "Let It Shine". "Music is a good vehicle to get kids to come out of themselves and express themselves in front of other people."

Andy has put together a television pilot of his work with these children called, naturally, The Andy Show. He was aided by the technical director from the Saturday Night Live Show as well as a highly professional local crew. They hope to market this show to Public Broadcasting with the idea of bringing folk songs and dances from around the world into the lives of many children.

Although Andy's interest in children and music gives him a trememdous amount of positive energy and spirit it is by no means his only musical pursuit.

"Andy Holiner and Friends", a group composed of flute or sax, percussion and piano or guitar recently performed for the benefit

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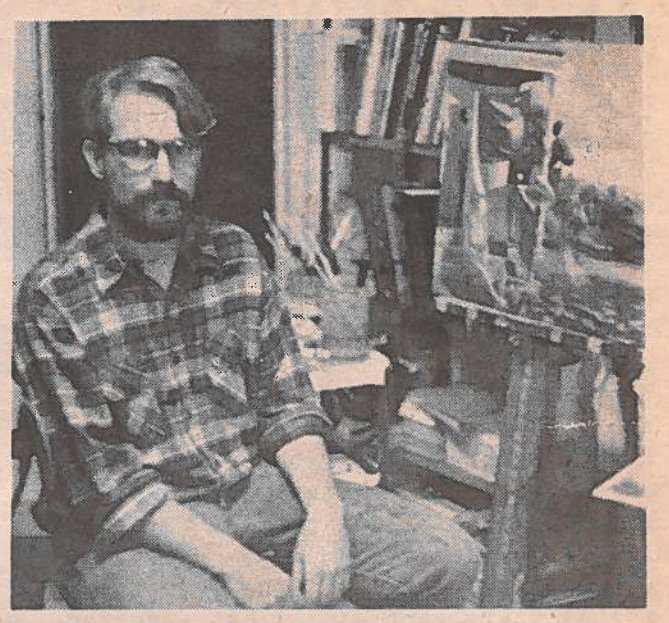

MATTHEW MATTINGLY TALKS ABOUT HIS WORK

I had the pleasure of spending an hour with Matthew Mattingly recently in his home and studio. We looked at his work and talked about his artwork, the artworld in general and about art education. Matthew:

"Working intensely for the show has made me more aware, more aware of the effect of light and atmosphere in a very small space, for instance. I'll come up against some kind of problem, like how far in the distance you can't see the windows in a building anymore, and I'll go out walking with that particular idea in mind.

"Something that I'd like to have happen with my work would be for the viewer to go into a room full of my paintings and come out having learned to see some of the stuff I've seen for them already; sort of a recorder of the visual world.

"Degas does that for me. You walk into a room full of Degas and whan you walk out the whole world looks like Degas - you see that sort of composition.

"My subject matter is close to the surface memory. I do drawing from reality as an exercise to add verisimilitude to my fantasy; to be able to imagine things that are not cliches but have some reality to them. I'm not interested in just visual things but want to have visual things woven in with philosophical or narrative ones. 'Narrative' is sort of a dirty word these days. There's a prejudice against realistic, genre or scene painting. I went to the Museum School in Boston. I'm currently at Mass Art in the evenings and find excellent people there.

"There's a widespread misunderstanding that if you remove the restrictions in art you will get originality but what you get is cliches. You can't put out anything until

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ANDY HOLINER

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for the St. John's Street Mural that was held at the Blackbird Restaurant. They play what could best be described 'folk-jazz', where the beginning story line bursts off into improvisation and eventually moves back to the story line, a form of particular interest to Andy who wrote and arranged a number of the songs they perform. One song tells the story of "Old George", a philosopher fisherman of Andy's youth. He sees this group as a music and spirit experience to bring people together and prefers to play in cafes, concerts or benefits, the types of places where people will get involved in the music and where a strong connection is made.

Within the coming months Andy will be going into a studio to record two other songs he wrote, one a rock'n'roll tune and one a ballad. His ideas for songs come in many places - once during a traffic jam. Often ideas come while at the Jamaica Pond, a favorite relaxing spot. Sometimes the idea flows for only a few seconds and this becomes a starting point for hours of work - or sometimes years as in the case of one song, begun in 1973 that was recently finished. Maybe.

Andy's musical interests are wide ranging, from Mozart to Stevie Wonder, the Band and the Beatles, through jazz greats like Duke Ellington and Fats Waller. They include Aretha Franklin and the Motown sound as well as Keith Jarrett and Chick Corea. A recent interest is Juluka, a South African group of mixed races that has survived the government harrassment to become local heroes in their own country. They are currently on tour in the United States.

Incredibly, during the past few months, Andy has also found time to be one of the driving forces behind the resurrection of the Jamaica Plain Arts Council. One of his personal goals for the council is to develop the concept of linking our youth with our seniors through music and movement.

Andy Holiner is an artist devoted to his art and to the people he reaches through his music. His love for both are quickly felt in meeting him and in experiencing his music.

MATTINGLY

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you've taken in. It's hard work to take things in - you have to study. Drawing should be a tool to study light, objects, people, and to relate them to an abstract scheme.

"These paintings were done all at once with a show in mind. Consistancy follows ideas too. They pushed consistancy in art school, rewarded it, even if it was utterly stupid. Exploration was considered immature. My theory is that this is a marketing concept that had been bastardized into an esthetic one: so that investors could recognize your work and changes would be very obvious. Photo-realists operated in a similar way: each one chose an area which became theirs exclusively. To be a 'mature responsible artist' is to be consistant, not to have meaning. I turned my back on that. I find the art world as such really boring and it makes it hard for me to work if I pay too much attention to the non-issues, to try to fit into an artificial scheme. The ideas themselves may have had some validity but they are taken to an absurd point. I didn't do any artwork for a year and a half after art school. They nearly succeeded in curing me of doing pictures like scores of adults had tried to do.

"As far as materials go, pastels are a more comfortable medium for me, though oils are more versitile. With pastels many choices are made for you. You can't keep working it, the tonal range is less and you don't mix colors - you mix them right on the paper. With pastels it's much easier to compose abstractly. I'd like to figure out an oil painting technique that's as spontaneous as pastels.

"I play with these spatial notions, not just for effect but as part of what the painting is saying. To communicate the relationships among the figures in the paintings must be second nature - deep enough so you just express yourself.

Matthew Mattingly will be showing his work at the
FRAMEWORTHY GALLERY
761 Centre Street, J.P.
September 16-October 15, 1984
Opening: September 16 2-6:00

ADVERTISERS

ADVERTISING will enable us to bring you the JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS free of charge. We will reach people throughout the J.P. community as well as neighboring areas.

One column wide (approx 3¼)
by one inch high is:
$8.00 for J.P. advertisers
$10.00 for advertisers outside J.P.

A standard business card would run for $16.00

There is an additional charge for setting up the ad.
SEND: Ad Copy or photo-ready ad, ad size, how often you would like it to appear, your check or money order and your NAME, ADDRESS and PHONE to:

JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS NEWS
P.O. BOX 3
J.P., Ma 02130

or leave it in the NEWSBOX in FOOD FOR THOUGHT, Centre Street

POSITIONS

WANTED: Versatile, dependable individual as studio manager/rep. for photographic specialty studio in J.P.; photography and/or graphic design background helpful; contact Mike at 522-5132 weekdays 9:30-5:30

WANTED: Church soloist
Soprano/Alto Send resume to:
Central Congregational Church
85 Seaverns Ave
J.P. 02130 524-3343

-ARTISTS-
Show your work in the best possible light. High quality slides and prints of your paintings, sculpture, weaving, stained glass, etc. for your portfolio. Unique artists' and musicians' portraits. COLORATURA 522-5132

THE DANCE CONNECTION
670 Centre Street 522-0777
Rosemary Ryan, Director
Lorraine Barry, Studio Mgr.
Registration now taking place:

Ballet
Tap
Jazz
Jazzercise
Breakdancing

Call for more information.

ART EVENTS

THEATRE

The FOOTLIGHT CLUB is looking for crew for the upcoming production of JACQUE BREL which opens October 26. Help is needed in lights, sets, costumes, publicity and more. For more information call: 524-6506

The OPEN DOOR THEATRE presents "The Crucible" through September 29. Productions are at 7:30. For more information call: 522-4292

"GREAT NEWS", a new musical play is coming through Boston. They will be casting people age 11-60 and need singers, dancers, actors, actresses and musicians. For an audition, send your name, address, telephone, age and your skill to:

"GREAT NEWS"
c/o M.B.P.
P.O. Box 6066
Boston MA. 02209

FREE listings for art EVENTS. Send information plus name and PHONE NUMBER to J.P. ARTS NEWS, P.O. Box 3, J.P. MA. 02130

CURTIS HALL SENIOR CENTER
Line-dancing, Tuesday and Thursday 1:00
Tues: $10, 10 lessons, Ann Gallagher
Thurs: Free, volunteer instr.

MUSIC

Kim Scholes and Eliane Lust perform a 'cello and piano recital. Works of Beethoven, Crumb, Schubert, Chopin and others. Monday, October 8 at Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston. FREE admission.